(b) whether Government have any proposal to open more Mother Dairy milk/vegetable booths in that area to meet the requirement of the employees;

(c) if so, the details of booths functioning at present in that area particularly Sector-17, Vasundhara, U.P.; and

(d) whether Government have any plan to open milk booth on priority basis and by when and if not reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Central Government does not maintain any statistics of the Central Government employees residing in any part of the country. The Mother Dairy partially meet the demand of the milk in Delhi and the adjoining cities. No booths of Mothe Dairy/ Fruit & Vegetable Project are exclusively opened for Government employees alone. These booths are opened for general public.

(c) and (b) The Mother Dairy nas already planned to open a milk booth in Sector 17 Vasundhara, Ghaziabad. The construction of the milk booth is in progress. There in no proposal under consideration for opening vegetable booth in Vasundhara by the Fruit & Vegetable Project.

Setting up of a Nuclear Power Station in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh

1559. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a site has been selected in the Srikakulam District of Andhra Pradesh for setting up a Nuclear Power Station;

(b) if so, the details of the project; and

(c) by when it would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Dumping of Nuclear waste by BARC

1560. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of environmentalists have expressed grave concern with regard to the proposed dumping of nuclear waste in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC);

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the proposed move; and

(c) what alternative has been contemplated for an effective containment of radioactive nuclear wastes which might otherwise spell disaster to the environment and would be positive hazard to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The reference in the question probably pertains to some newspaper stories which were in turn based on an original release of PTI. Government (i.e. BARC in this case) has already categorically denied the original PTI stories about a decision having been taken to dispose of radioactive wastes in the States of Rajasthan and/or Madhya Pradesh. In fact, this has also been reported to the press and Government's decision in the matter is clear and unambiguous. It is reiterated at this point that the Department of Atomic Energy is, at present, carrying out investigations in several parts of India to characterise the different geological settings that can be considered suitable for siting the repository, significant amount of work remains to be done before any decision can be taken to determine the suitability of any site. Further, if and when a decision has to be made it would be at the highest levels of both the Central and State Governments concerned. As such the stories that have been appearing in the press are incorrect and Government would like to dispel any misapprehension in the minds of the public at large and the State Governments in particular.

(b) Does no arise.

(c) The long term isolation of radioactive wastes has been engaging the attention of the nuclear community all over the world including India for several decades. It is universally agreed that the best possible option to isolate radioactive wastes from the human biosphere over extended periods of time would be to vitrify the high level wastes, have them cooled under surveillance in controlled

conditions for a few decades and finally emplace in deep geological repositories which have to be chosen with great care and after extensive studies. With this approach towards safe disposal of radioactive waste, any fear of the hazard of the waste to the people is unwarranted. The very basis of the approach of waste disposal to ensure safety of public and the environment.

Unit Cost of Nuclear Power Generation

1561. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

(a) the average per unit cost of nuclear power generation during the last five years;

(b) whether the cost includes cost of uranium and heavy water; if not, per unit cost of uranium and heavy water; and

(c) whether the cost includes cost of waste disposal and decommissioning; if not, the cost involved per unit on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The average cost per unit excluding returns on equity and levies of nuclear power generation during the last five years are given below:—

Years	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Average cost of power generation Paise/Kwh	125	116	123	133	151

(b) Yes, Sir. This cost includes charges towards uranium (fuel) and heavy water.

(c) The above cost includes cost of management of waste at the station and does not include decommissioning levy of 2 paise/Kwh.